

Form PTO-1449

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

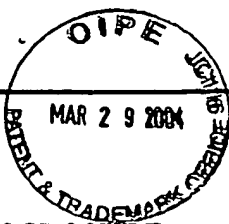
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1



Complete if Known

Application Number

09/976,462

Filing Date

October 12, 2001

First Named Inventor

Akira MATSUMOTO

Art Unit

2872

Examiner Name

Lavarias, Arnel C.

Confirmation No.

9975

Attorney Docket No.

939_030

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|---------------|-----------------|------|------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| | NONE | | | | | | |
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U.S. CO-PENDING APPLICATIONS

| Exam. Initial | Application/ Publication Number | Filing/ Publication Date | Inventor Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class |
|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|-----------|
| | NONE | | | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation | Abstract |
|----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| AI | EP 0729044 | 08/28/1996 | EP | | | | |
| AJ | WO 90/04194 | 04/19/1990 | WO | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

| | |
|--|------|
| | NONE |
|--|------|

Examiner:

Arnel C. Lavarias

Date Considered:

6/16/04

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of any of the above U.S. references.